



Meet Your New Board Members 🍌

MSNA is excited to announce the outcome of the 2026 MSNA Board Election. Please give a warm welcome to your new board members:

- Vice President**
Kim Franta
Eastern Carver County Schools
- Secretary/Treasurer**
Jess Peña
Brooklyn Center Community Schools
- Leadership Development Committee**
Pam Haupt
Columbia Heights Public Schools



[Get to Know Your New Board Members](#)

These positions will begin their terms in August 2026 following installation on Wednesday, August 5 at the Annual Conference in St. Cloud. Thank you, members for voting in the election and exercising your membership rights, and congratulations to Kim, Jess, and Pam!

In the Spotlight! 🌟 Learn About Lois

Welcome to MSNA's newest member spotlight! We're featuring Lois Schmidt, Cook/Dishwasher at Tracy Area Public Schools. [Learn about Lois and what she enjoys about her role.](#)

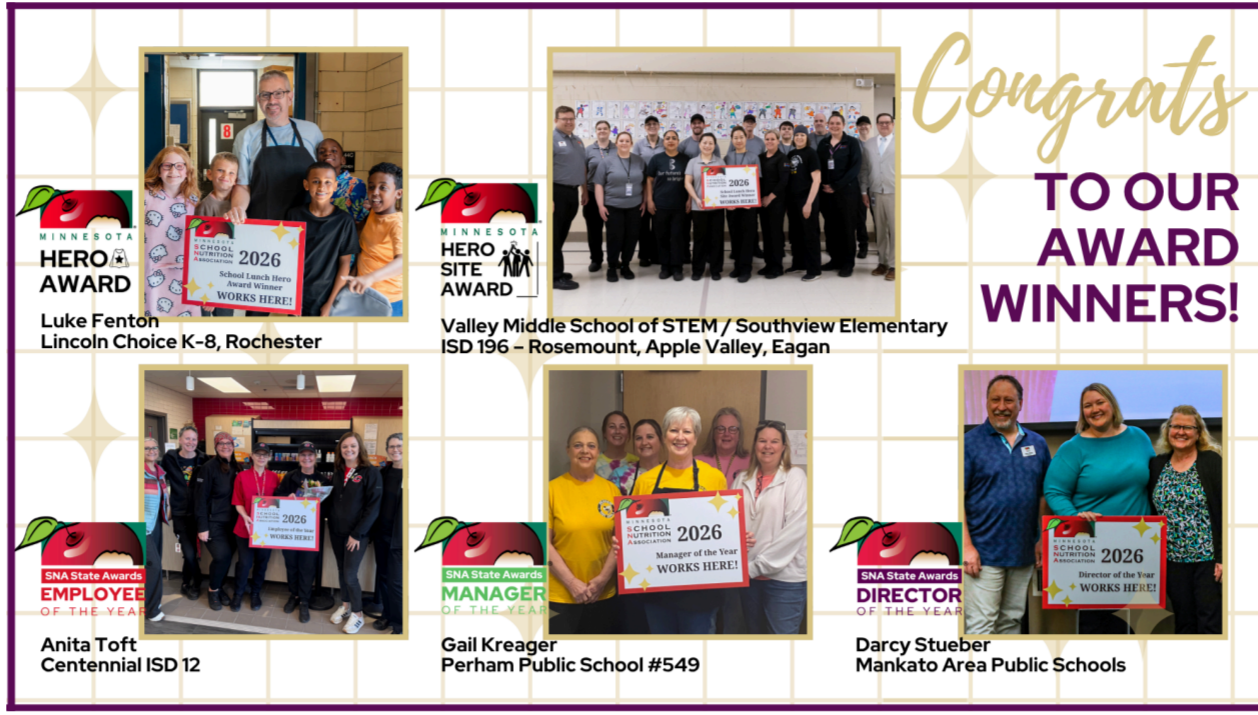
Meet the Member

LOIS SCHMIDT
COOK/DISHWASHER

TRACY AREA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"My absolute 'happy place' is our school's summer feeding program. I help at a nearby park, and it's wonderful to see kids and their families stop by for lunch."

Congratulations to MSNA's 2026 Award Winners! 🏆



[Discover MSNA's Award Winners](#)

Have a "One in a Melon" Experience this August



Both attendee and exhibitor registration are now open for the MSNA 69th Annual Conference: *One in a Melon: Celebrating Skills, Sharing Successes, and Learning Together.* held August 2-5, 2026 at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, MN.

From energizing keynote speakers, to 40+ educational breakout sessions, to our vibrant 150+ booth food show, this conference offers something for everyone. Whether you're diving into scratch cooking, navigating new guidelines, or preparing for what's next, this event will help you stay ahead of the curve in a rapidly evolving industry.

[Learn More & Register](#)

MSNA Scholarship Applications Close June 1



Ready to grow, connect, and make your mark? We're pleased to open TWO additional scholarship spots for the SNA Annual National Conference (ANC) and MSNA Annual Conference in addition to the scholarship process conducted in December 2025.

With up to \$900 available to cover travel, lodging, or registration, this opportunity helps turn professional goals into real-world experiences. Don't miss your chance to invest in yourself, your future (and your next conference adventure) is calling!

[Submit Your Application](#)

Thank you to our sponsors for their support of MSNA events and opportunities. Find their logos at the bottom of this newsletter.

Why Get Involved with the MSNA Mentorship Program?



Are you a new director who could benefit from guidance in your position? Or are you a seasoned director who would like to provide guidance and encouragement during new directors' transitions into their role?

MSNA Past President, Leadership Development Committee (LDC) Chair, and Director of Child Nutrition at Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools, Emily Malone, has developed a guidebook to help bring clarity, confidence, and connection to new directors. Emily explains the importance of learning from one another and how this book can benefit your career.

[About the Mentor-Mentee Program](#)

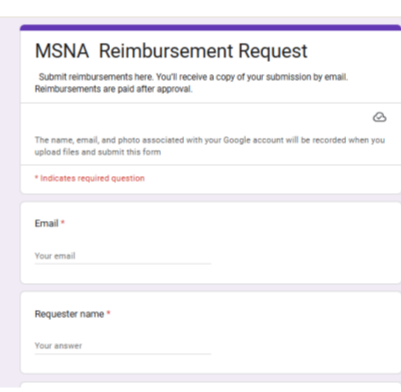
Apply for the 2026 ACF/MCC Scholarships



Applications are now open for the 2026 American Culinary Federation (ACF) scholarship program! Culinary and pastry arts students who are members of the ACF and enrolled in an accredited postsecondary program are encouraged to apply.

Applications must be postmarked by Sunday, November 15, 2026. Recipients will be announced by January 1 and recognized at the chapter's January Awards Dinner. [Learn more and apply.](#)

MSNA's New Reimbursement Form is Here 📄



We've made reimbursements easier than ever. Our new Google Form replaces the old spreadsheet, giving leadership and committee members a simple, streamlined way to submit conference, event, and other expense requests.

Be sure to bookmark the form for easy access whenever you need it. It is also available on the MSNA website [here](#).

Sponsor Spotlight! Hello, Peterson Farms 🍌

At Peterson Farms Treats, we've always been committed to offering delicious and nutritious fruit-based products from our family-owned facility in Shelby, MI that meet the needs of schools and food service providers.

Now, with Cool Tropics and Country Pure Foods joining us, we're expanding our ability to serve you with even more great options.

We pride ourselves with excellent products, service, and commitment to our customers!



Member in the News 📰



March 12
Mankato Area Public Schools' summer meals program was featured on KEYC News Now, highlighting expanded meal access through the addition of food trucks serving the community. During the interview, Darcy Stueber, Director of School Food Service for Mankato Schools and MSNA Public Policy Chair, discussed the importance of helping children stay nourished throughout the summer months.

[Watch the segment](#)



March 13
Luke Fenton, a student nutrition services associate at Lincoln K-8 Elementary School, received the 2026 MSNA Hero Award and was featured in a KIMT News 3 article.

[Read the article](#)

Upcoming Events 📅

- June 22:** Twins Takeover Networking Event, Target Field, Minneapolis, MN
- July 13:** Early Bird Deadline for the MSNA Annual Conference
- July 13-15:** SNA's Annual National Conference (ANC), Charlotte, NC
- August 2-5:** MSNA 69th Annual Conference, St. Cloud, MN

[See the Full Events Calendar Here](#)

THANK YOU, MSNA SUPPORTERS

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2026 ELITE INDUSTRY MEMBERS

Support MSNA events. Sponsorships are available to industry members.

If you have any questions, please contact MSNA at 320-251-2344 or MSNA@fusionLP.org.

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